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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

MCDOWELL, BRIAN E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1624

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/31/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, and 14 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The 103 rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, and 14 is **still maintained**.

Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 8/21/2009, with respect to the rejection set forth in the Final Office Action mailed 5/21/2009, has been fully considered but are not found persuasive.

Based on the teachings by Botti and Roelant as stated previously, it would have been *prima facie* obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a porphyrin such as heme b or a similar derivative thereof (e.g., heme a, heme c, etc.) into the biotin-linked compound described by Roelant and consequently use this compound in one of the processes described above (e.g., purifying or quantifying proteins, in particular hemoproteins since one of ordinary skill is aware that heme readily binds to said proteins). Therefore, the claims are obvious.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRIAN MCDOWELL whose telephone number is (571)270-5755. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. James O. Wilson can be reached 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/BRIAN MCDOWELL/

Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1624